

Message Text

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STATE PASS NSC FOR VICE PRESIDENT'S STAFF

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SOPN, NO
SUBJECT: NORWEGIAN INTERVIEW WITH VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE

NORWAY'S LARGEST, MOST INFLUENTIAL DAILY, "AFTENPOSTEN,"
CARRIED HIGHLY FAVORABLE REPORT MARCH 12 OF INTERVIEW
THREE OF ITS LEADING EDITORS HAD WITH VICE PRESIDENT
MONDALE.

FOLLOWING IS FULL TEXT OF ARTICLE:

WASHINGTON - "WE CONSIDER THE DEFENSE OF THE NORTHERN
FLANK TO BE AN ESSENTIAL PART OF NATO'S TASK, AND
WE ALSO ATTACH GREAT IMPORTANCE TO COOPERATION WITH
NORWAY IN A NUMBER OF OTHER AREAS," VICE PRESIDENT
WALTER MONDALE TOLD "AFTENPOSTEN" ON FRIDAY.
"PRESIDENT CARTER AND THE NEW ADMINISTRATION HAVE MADE
THE PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AN IMPORTANT CONCERN,"
MONDALE SAID. "IN OUR VIEW, NORWEGIAN SOCIETY REFLECTS
THESE INESTIMABLE HUMAN VALUES."

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THE VICE PRESIDENT MADE THESE STATEMENTS AT THE WHITE
HOUSE WHEN HE RECEIVED "AFTENPOSTEN" EDITOR HANS VATNE,
ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR EINAR FR. NAGELL-ERICHSEN,
AND THE PAPER'S WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT. MONDALE
POINTED OUT THAT THERE IS FRUITFUL COOPERATION BETWEEN
THE UNITED STATES AND NORWAY IN CULTURAL, POLITICAL
AND STRATEGIC AREAS.

"THE NEW ADMINISTRATION HAS SET A GOAL OF EXPANDING COOPERATION AND CONSULTATIONS WITH THE U.S.'S ALLIES," MONDALE SAID. "THIS ALSO APPLIES TO RELATIONS WITH NORWAY. BUT WE WANT MUTUAL COOPERATION. WE WANT TO HEAR YOUR ADVICE," HE ADDED. IN THAT CONNECTION, MONDALE STRESSTED THE ROLE WHICH NORWAY PLAYS IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND ITS GROWING IMPORTANCE ON THE WORLD ECONOMIC SCENE. "WE CONSIDER WHAT YOUR LEADERS DO IN THESE AREAS TO BE OF SPECIAL IMPORTANCE," HE SAID. MONDALE EMPHASIZED THAT THE DECISION OF NORWAY, DENMARK, BELGIUM AND THE NETHERLANDS TO BUY THE F-16 AIRCRAFT IS OF GREAT IMPORTANCE TO WEAPONS STANDARDIZATION WITHIN NATO. "THIS WAS AN IMPORTANT STEP, AND WE ATTACH GREAT IMPORTANCE TO YOUR GOVERNMENT'S CONTRIBUTION TO THIS ARRANGEMENT," HE ADDED.

WHEN ASKED WHEN HIS PLANNED OFFICIAL VISIT TO NORWAY WILL TAKE PLACE, MONDALE ANSWERED THAT THE TIME HAS NOT YET BEEN DEFINITELY SET. HE SAID HE HAS ALSO RECEIVED INVITATIONS FROM DENMARK, SWEDEN AND FINLAND, AND HE INDICATED HE WOULD VISIT THE FOUR NORDIC COUNTRIES AT THE SAME TIME. "I LOOK FORWARD TO THIS TRIP," HE SAID. ANDERS

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